

LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS

7500 ODAWA CIRCLE
HARBOR SPRINGS, MI 49740

DECLARATION 102112-01

**LTBB Support for the State of Michigan Legislation,
Senate Bill 1232 titled the Michigan Indian Families Preservation Act**

A Declaration is a formal written public statement in support or opposition of an issue or matter. One or more Tribal Councilors may sign onto a Declaration as individual Councilors. A Declaration shall not obligate or commit the Tribal Council in any manner. Declarations do not require formal action by the Tribal Council.

The Waganakising Odawak is a nation of citizens with inherent sovereignty and right to self-governance; and

The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) is a federally recognized Indian Tribe under Public Law 103-324, and is a party to numerous Treaties with the United States the most recent of which being the Treaty of Washington of March 28, 1836 (7 Stat. 491) and the Treaty of Detroit of 1855 (11 Stat. 621); and

The LTBB Constitution, Article I, section B.2 and section B.5 the LTBB has a duty to protect and nurture our children who comprise our future leaders, citizens and voters;

There is no resource that is more vital to the continued existence and integrity of LTBB than our children;

LTBB believes the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 ("ICWA") is not necessarily comprehensible or comprehensive and there are several issues for which the ICWA does not provide adequate explanation or instruction;

Senator Judy K. Emmons, representing Michigan's 33rd Senate District, has introduced SB 1232, titled the "Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act" (hereafter "MIFPA"); and

LTBB believes that passage of MIFPA, as introduced by Senator Emmons, into state law will increase Michigan compliance with ICWA and will better protect Indian Nations' interest in promoting the health and welfare of our children; and

LTBB understands that MIFPA received 36 affirmative votes before a full Senate Hearing ; and

LTBB understands that MIFPA will now go to the House Families, Children, Seniors Committee for determination that if it should be sent to a full House Hearing;

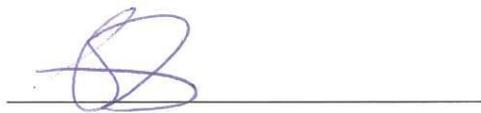
The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians declares its official support for the introduction and passage of SB 1232, known as the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act, by the Michigan Legislature and approval by the Governor.

The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians requests that the Michigan Senate and House take prompt action intended to secure passage of SB 1232 when the Legislature returns to session in November 2012.

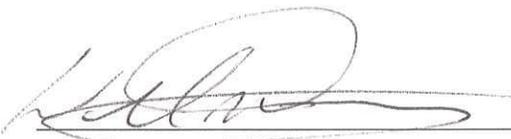
The undersigned Tribal Councilors and Tribal Chairperson declare that they support the passage of Senate Bill 1232 known as the Michigan Indian Families Preservation Act into State law.


Tribal Councilor _____

Date: 10-21-12


Tribal Councilor _____

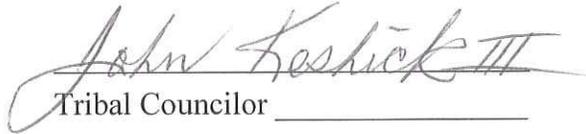
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Tribal Councilor _____

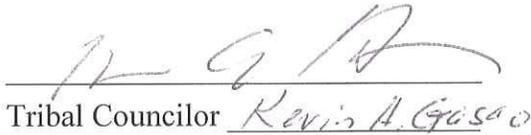
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Tribal Councilor _____

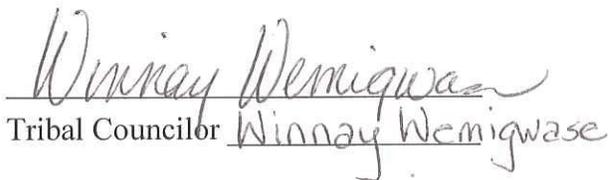
Date: 10/21/12


Tribal Councilor _____

Date: 10/21/12


Tribal Councilor Kevin A. Gosao

Date: 11/4/12


Tribal Councilor Winnay Wemigwase

Date: 11/4/12


Tribal Councilor Belinda Bardwell

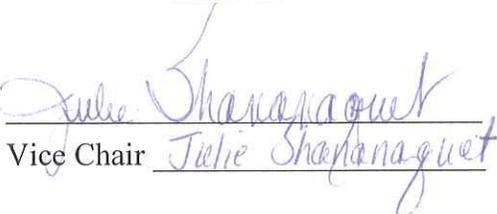
Date: 11-4-12


Tribal Councilor JOHN BOTT

Date: 11-4-12


Tribal Chair Dexter McNAMARA

Date: 11-6-12


Vice Chair Julie Shananaquet

Date: 11-7-12

A copy of this Declaration is on file at the Tribal Council Legislative Office and the Tribal Chair/Vice Chair Office.